



CALPEEK

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MINETA SHOCKS DEMOS WITH RESIGNATION. MAD SCRAMBLE UNDERWAY IN SANTA CLARA CO.

Editor's note: U.S. Rep. Norman Mineta (D-San Jose) shocked his House Demo colleagues Sept. 11 by announcing his resignation, effective Oct. 10. Mineta will become vice president of Lockheed Martin Corp., in charge of the defense contractor's transportation systems & services division. But what does this mean in terms of 1996? Here's our report & analysis...

...The 1992 reapportionment of Mineta's 15th C.D. moved it from a solid Demo stronghold to a *very competitive seat*. Mineta, the popular former mayor of San Jose, had no trouble holding the district for Demos in either '92 or '94. In '94, he trounced GOPer Robert Wick with 59.9% of the vote. But in terms of registration, it's only 46.2% Demo vs. 37.9% GOP. It's perfect turf for a moderate from either party -- liberals and hardliners need not apply...

...On the GOP side, the list of names that has popped up includes State Sen. Tom Campbell of Palo Alto; Assemblyman Jim Cunneen of Campbell; Karin Dowdy, a West Valley-Mission College Dist. trustee from Saratoga, who had already announced prior to Mineta's decision to resign; and perhaps newly elected San Jose Councilwoman Pat Dando. The strongest candidate without any doubt would be Campbell. He's already been in Congress and is probably itching to go back, given recent developments in Sacto. The only problem is that Campbell's 11th S.D. seat is up in '96 and without Campbell to hold it, it could go to a Demo, such as popular Assemblyman Bryon Sher of Palo Alto. Another Campbell problem: does he want to run for the U.S. Senate once again in 1998? If yes, then being in Calif. rather than DC certainly has its advantages...

...On the Demo side, the long list includes: San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer; former San Jose Mayor Tom

McEnergy; Santa Clara Co. Supes Jim Beale, Mike Honda and perhaps Dianne McKenna; former SC Sup. Rod Diridon; former San Jose councilman & now businessman Jerry Estruth; and perhaps high tech exec. Tom Hayes. Both Hayes and Honda are currently looking at legislative races in '96. It's hard to handicap the Demos at this point, but Hammer and McEnergy would certainly be very strong contenders...

...FYI: Special election dates. There are two ways Gov. Wilson can go: the *old way* or the *new way*. Under the old way, he could call a primary for Dec. 5, 12 or 19, with a Jan. 30, Feb. 6 or 13 runoff. If he goes with the new way, the primary could be on Jan. 30, with a Mar. 26 runoff (consolidated with the regularly scheduled primary election). Stay tuned...

67th A.D. RECALL: ARE HER DAYS AS GOP SPEAKER NUMBERED? SUPPORT FOR DORIS ALLEN DECLINES.

Editor's note: Here's the current update on the effort to recall Assembly Speaker Doris Allen from her 67th A.D. post. Here's our analysis...

...The latest data from the Orange Co. Registrar of Voters indicates the recall drive against Allen (R-Huntington Beach) will probably qualify by the time you read this story. As of Sept. 11th, there were 23,994 verified signatures. And on that day, recall backers turned in another 2,428 names. According to the registrar, recall proponents have had a validity rate of about 83% --- meaning 2,015 of the 2,428 signatures are valid. The recall only needs 25,606 to qualify and it looks as though the recall backers will be just over 26,000. FYI: one note of gallows humor: Sacto BEE political columnist Dan Walters described the Allen recall as *a mercy killing*...

...But there's more bad news for Allen. As CALPEEK

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hit deadline, there were persistent reports out of Sacto that Allen would resign as Speaker before the close of session on Sept. 15. No deals with regard to the recall, because it can't be stopped at this point, although funding might not be provided. As for a replacement for Allen, round up the usual: Fred Aguiar, Curt Pringle, James Rogan, Brian Setencich, Bernie Richter or perhaps Brett Granlund. Bottomline: the political situation in the Capital is very unstable...

...Turns out that Allen is perhaps her own worst enemy. She's got *open mouth, insert foot, shoot foot disease*. Although both sides have said some pretty nasty things, her recent outburst about her male colleagues from Orange Co. with "penis problems" not only offended enemies, but supporters too. Or as one source told CALPEEK, "Doris has balls, but no brains." And the recall itself doesn't make the institution (the Assembly) look very good --- at least in the public's eye. The big question: if she resists and stays on as speaker, will she get the funding to fight the recall??? Stay tuned...

CARD CLUB MADNESS: POKER CLUB INITIATIVE IN SOUTH S.F. DEFEATED. MORE ELECTIONS IN 1995.

Editor's note: Not counting the Sept. 12th card club measure in So. San Francisco, there will still be 11 more local gaming proposals facing voters this year, with the possibility of a few more making it onto local ballots before 1995 is over. Here's our update...

...The vote in So. San Francisco was 55.8% NO to 44.2% YES. Thus another card club proposal bites the political dust. This was interesting because of the two key backers: R.D. Hubbard, chairman of Hollywood Park (and the Inglewood card club); and Eddie Dibartolo, owner of the NFL's 49ers...

...In addition to So. San Francisco, these two also are said to be partnered in the Nov. 7th card club initiative in Palm Springs. And here's what's really interesting. In newspaper stories, Dibartolo says he'll spend \$16-20 million to legalize gambling in Calif. in certain locations IF the Palm Springs initiative is approved by voters. Specifically, the NFL owner has said he's looking at a November 1996 ballot initiative to legalize gaming in certain Calif. locations. Probably Palm Springs, Inglewood, Pomona --- and perhaps Stockton...

...What has all this recent card club activity accomplish-

ed? For one thing, it's awakened the Nevada casinos out of a deep sleep. Ditto the Indian casinos interests in Calif. Obviously, they don't want the competition. And it means more work for a handful of political consultants who specialize in these kinds of elections. Sources tell CALPEEK that consultant Jerry Westlund has now been hired to do the NO campaigns in the cities of Irwindale(10/24); Palm Springs, Ontario & Pomona (11/7); Hawaiian Gardens & Azusa(11/21); and Colton(12/12). The city council in San Bernardino will again consider card clubs Sept. 18th. Stay tuned...

GOPer RICHARD ACKERMAN WINS 72nd A.D. SPECIAL

As expected in this heavy Republican area, businessman and former Fullerton Councilman Richard Ackerman mashed Demo Shirley Hafner by a margin of 77.65% to 22.35%. With Ackerman's win, the GOP now has 41 members in the Assembly. The Sept. 12th special was called when Ross Johnson was elected to the State senate in another special earlier this year. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: BACKERS OF TORT REFORM TURN IN 2.3 MILLION SIGNATURES FOR 3 MEASURES.

Editor's note: The Alliance to Revitalize CA, a coalition of high-tech business leaders and consumer activists, have turned in 2.3 million signatures to qualify 3 tort reform measures for the March 1996 primary ballot. Here's a brief update...

...Sources think it is **very likely** that the Alliance will qualify all three measures. The package includes: 1) a no-fault auto insurance measure; 2) a measure to require the losing party in shareholder class action lawsuits to pay the winner's legal expenses; and 3) a measure to cap attorney's contingency fees in certain types of legal actions...

...It goes without say that the trial lawyers, now known as Consumer Attorneys of CA(CAOC) are dead set against these three measures and in fact are attempting to qualify at least one counter-measure for the March 26th ballot. That measure is called, **Attorney Fees. Right to Negotiate. Frivolous Lawsuits. Initiative Statute**. The deadline for CAOC to submit this statute is Nov. 13th, but that won't leave much time to verify the signatures. All initiatives have to be certified for the March 26, 1996 ballot by Nov. 16th...

...FYI: In addition to the above mentioned initiative, an article in the L.A. Daily Journal by Tom Dressiar says that CAOC may attempt a November initiative called the "Retirement Savings & Consumer Protection Act." The author is attorney William S. Lerach. The initiative would expand the tort rights of individual pension and retirement fund investors who get ripped off by fraudulent or deceptive securities practices. Remember a guy named Charles Keating? But what's of real interest in Dressiar's story is that political consultants Richie Ross and Bill Carrick wrote a memo to the CAOC, outlining their belief that such an initiative would be a **wedge issue** for Demos to use against GOP candidates in November of '96 --- just as GOP candidates will probably use CCRI against Demo candidates. It will be a **hot issue** (Ross & Carrick say "nuclear"), but wedge issue? Doubtful. Stay tuned...

4 SAN DIEGO COUNCIL JOBS ON THE LINE SEPT. 19.

Editor's note: This Sept. 19th muni election will be the last of its kind because after this one, all city elections will take place in EVEN numbered years at the same time as other elections. In next week's primary, the **even number** council seats are up. Here's our brief update & analysis. The runoff will be Nov. 7th...

● **Dist. #8** - Popular incumbent Juan Vargas is unopposed once again...

● **Dist. #2** - This open seat features businessman & planning board pres. John Seymour (yes, he's the son of former U.S. Senator John Seymour); community leader & political consultant Byron Wear; community business owner Mike McLaughlin; and attorney Pat Flynn. The conventional wisdom is that Wear definitely makes it into a runoff --- but with whom? Seymour looked okay, but then got hit in mid-August with some very bad publicity, accusing his boss, developer Doug Manchester, of trying to *launder* money to his campaign through Manchester's daughter. Seymour says it's mudslinging, but you have to wonder after reading the Aug. 22nd story in the San Diego Union-Tribune. As for Wear, he hasn't escaped either. He's been accused of being a stealth religious right candidate...

● **Dist. #4** - Incumbent George Stevens is brash and probably could never win election if he had to run citywide instead of in a district. Stevens faces a well-

fund opponent in educator Shirley Weber, who has raised more than \$100,000 --- a first for a challenger in any council election in this city. There is a 3rd candidate, but sources say this is a two-person battle. Some think Stevens wins narrowly without a runoff, while others just aren't sure...

● **Dist. #6** - Incumbent Valerie Stallings, who ousted Bruce Henderson four years ago, is in Round #2 of that prolonged battle. Her chief rival is Mike Pallamary, who is one of Henderson's closest political allies. There are two others in this race, but it's a two-person battle in this moderate-to-conservative district. A runoff is likely in this very bitter race. Stay tuned...

NEW CAMPAIGN FILING DEADLINES FOR '96 SET

Because of the earlier March primary, a new bill (SB 1361 by Ross Johnson) has been signed into law by Gov. Pete Wilson setting up new dates for campaign filings. Here's the info:

<u>Statement Due</u>	<u>Period Covered</u>
Oct. 15, 1995	July 1 - Sept. 30
Jan. 10, 1996	July 1 - Dec. 31 or Oct. 1 - Dec. 31
Feb. 15, 1996	Jan. 1 - Feb. 10
Mar. 14, 1996	Feb. 11 - Mar. 9

CAMPAIGN '96: ADDING MORE NAMES TO THE MIX.

Editor's note: Here's another update on who's IN and who's OUT for 1996 Legislative and U.S. House races...

☒ **27th S.D.** - Add the name of first term GOP Assemblyman Phil Hawkins of Downey to the growing list of Republicans who want to replace State Sen. Bob Beverly(R), who is *termed out* in '96. It's expected that Hawkins will hire Sacto-based McNally-Temple as his lead consultants...

☒ **71st A.D.** - Former City of Orange Mayor Jim Beam has hired consultant Wayne Johnson to run his GOP primary campaign...

☒ **1st A.D.** - Santa Rosa teacher Virginia Strom-Martin(D) has retained Sheingold Associates as her campaign consultant for the seat of Dan Hauser(D), who is *termed out* in '96...

LT. GOV. GRAY DAVIS TO ADDRESS L.A. PA EXECS.

Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) will address members of the L.A. Public Affairs Officers Assn., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sept. 20, Biltmore Hotel, L.A. The LG's topic: the changing political & social structure (affirmative action). For info & RSVPs ☎ Debby Ishihara at MCA, Inc. (818)777-3591...

'95 CA PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM ON PUBLIC SAFETY.

National & Calif. opinion leaders will offer solutions on how to make our communities safer, at a public affairs forum sponsored by Hitachi, Ltd., the CA Chamber of Commerce and the L.A. Chamber of Commerce, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sept. 26, Biltmore Hotel, L.A. Panelists include L.A. DA Gil Garcetti, Rebuild L.A. chair Linda Griego. Keynote speaker is supposed to be AG Janet Reno(invited). For info ☎ (1-800)317-5343...

CCRI FORCES IN L.A. GET BASHED IN BROUHAHA.

Editor's note: The focal point of this story is the CA Civil Rights Initiative, still at the AG's office awaiting the green light to begin its statewide petition drive. Here is CALPEEK's analysis & commentary...

...The key players in this political mess are L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan; ex-Airport Commissioner Michelle Park-Steel; CCRI daily mgr. Joe Gelman, who *was* also a city civil service commissioner; and the L.A. City Councilman Nate Holden...

...For months, Gelman has been a lightning rod of controversy ever since his appointment as the daily mgr. for CCRI. His confrontations with Holden have been numerous and yet he has held onto his commission job, with Mayor Riordan's blessings. This in itself has caused *racial tensions* at L.A. City Hall...

...Enter ex-Fire Comm. Park-Steel, who was supposed to be a slam dunk for approval to the city's airport commission. After her initial okay by the council, there was a call for reconsideration. At the heart of the request for another vote on Park-Steel (in the view of some) was a 1994 L.A. Times op-ed piece by Park-Steel, *critical* of the city's affirmative action plan for the fire department. AA came up during Park-Steel's second council appearance and she told councilmembers she supported the city's AA plan. Even though some councilmembers had reservations, she was confirmed Sept. 6th on a 8-to-6 vote. Why was there some doubt?

Perhaps it had more to do with her husband, attorney Shawn Steel, treasurer of the Calif. Republican Party. Recently, Steel signed a fundraising letter on behalf of CCRI. Please read between the lines...

...Shortly after the vote, Gelman (thumbing his nose at the council and Holden) announced that Park-Steel supported CCRI and all hell broke loose. She denied Gelman's statement, but the damage was done...

...Politically, Riordan has been hurt by this fiasco and he was correct in ousting Gelman. Gelman says his departure was mutual, but our sources aren't buying that spin. Riordan was really pissed. On Sept. 12th, Park-Steel announced her resignation from the airport commission and issued a blistering attack on the council and Holden in particular. Shawn Steel had a hand in preparing the statement, which among other things said that the "*1992 riots were primarily a race riot against Korean Americans. Korean American businesses were selected by gangs for robbery and destruction.*" That was considered by some councilmembers to be very *inflammatory* and full of *racial overtones*. But the strongest words were for Holden. The statement said in part, "*He is morally and personally corrupt and utterly unqualified to sit in judgment of me.*" Heavy stuff and Holden may strike back with legal action...

...Bottomline: None of this would have happened had Gelman kept quiet. FYI: the latest L.A. Times survey on CCRI shows it leading statewide, 65% in favor, 25% opposed and 10% undecided. Stay tuned...

L.A. FORUM FEATURES COUNCILMAN SVORINICH.

L.A. Councilman Rudy Svorinich will be the featured speaker when the L.A. Current Affairs Forum hosts its monthly meeting, 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Oct. 3, Hyatt Regency Hotel. For info ☎ Emma Schafer at (310)445-8862...

FEC REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN S.F. OCTOBER 23-24.

The Federal Election Commission(FEC) will conduct a regional conference for candidates, party committees, and corporate/labor PACs at the Miyako Hotel, S.F., Oct. 23 and 24. The topic: basic and advanced workshops on federal campaign finance law. The CA FPPC will also be present for a workshop on State law. The cost is \$145. For info ☎ 1-(800)-424-9530...